against the Metal Scrap Trade Corporation (MSTC); and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government have received complaints against Metal Scrap Trade Corporation (MSTC) from ship breakers at Alang and Iron and Steel Scrap Association of India alleging favouritism and irregularities in distribution of scrap ships. The allegations relate to allotment of larger vessels to a few breaking units. Allotment of larger sized vessels combinedly to two units was tried towards the end of 84-85 due to limited availability of smaller vessels. However, the practice was abandoned by MSTC due to opposition from the Industry. The guidelines for 85-86 provide for allotment of larger sized vessels to individual ship breaking units with certain conditions with regard to adjustment of tonnage allotted in excess of the target fixed by MSTC for each ship breaking unit.

Criticism by Senior Economists regarding grant of D.A. to Central Government Employees

114. SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the practice of granting increases in dearness allowance to Central Government employees came in for severe criticism from the Senior Economists; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) While individual economists have been reported to have expressed views on the expansionary impact of Dearness Allowance increases, Government is not aware of severe criticism from the Senior Economists as such regarding the practice of granting dearness allowance

(b) The question does not arise.

Cancer Insurance Scheme

115. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:
DR. H. P. SHARMA:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new Cancer Insurance Scheme has been inaugurated by the Prime Minister;

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme; and

(c) what steps have been taken to popularise the scheme and with what response?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Cancer Medical Expenses Policy was inaugurated in Delhi by the Prime Minister on 11th July, 1985.

(b) The salient features of the Scheme are:—

(1) The eligibility of the proposer to the Scheme is subject to membership of the Indian Cancer Society.

(2) The insurance premium for the said Medical Expenses Policy is Rs. 100 per annum.

(3) The total limit for medical expenses cover is Rs. 40,000 in the aggregate.

(4) Other benefits available to the Insured as a member of the Indian Cancer Society, include (a) one free medical check up at a detection centre in the first year, (b) Check up at concessional rates in the subsequent years, (c) Access to literature on cancer, etc.

(5) To begin with, the Scheme is restricted to 4 metropolitan since the Indian Cancer Society has no facilities in this behalf elsewhere in India. The Scheme